

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 1-9, 11 and 12 were examined in the Office Action. Claims 10 and 13-20 are currently withdrawn.

In the Amendment filed on February 14, 2012, the phrase "polar groups as" was mistakenly deleted from claims 1 and 6 while the claims were being amended. This phrase is added back to claims 1 and 6 in this Supplemental Amendment. The claims are amended relative to the claims in the February 14, 2012 Amendment.

The Remarks/Arguments presented in the February 14, 2012 Amendment are relevant for this supplemental amendment. For the Examiner's convenience, the February 14, 2012 Remarks/Arguments are reproduced below.

Anticipation

The rejection of claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 11 and 12 as anticipated by Sirringhaus (U.S. Pat. Appl. Pub. No. 2003/0059975) is respectfully traversed. The reference does not describe every feature of the claims.

Current claims 1 and 6 recite that the water soluble cationic conjugated polymer comprises pendant solubilizing groups linked to the conjugated polymer (for example, see the R groups of PFON (CH₃)₃I-PBD on page 29 of the published parent PCT application WO 2005/056628).

In contrast, Sirringhaus does not describe such polymers. Sirringhaus describes the use of PEDOT:PSS in water or water/alcohol for the formation of one layer, followed by the application of a thiophene (P3HT) or dithiophene (F8T2) polymer in an anhydrous mixed xylenes solution for the formation of the next layer (see paragraphs [0105] and [0106]). As shown in the attached printout from Wikipedia, PEDOT:PSS does not have pendant solubilizing groups linked to a conjugated polymer. The PEDOT conjugated polymer portion does not have pendant groups, while the PSS portion is not a conjugated polymer and is not a pendant group of PEDOT. PEDOT:PSS is a macromolecular salt, not a conjugated polymer with pendant solubilizing groups.

As for P3HT and F8T2, these are not water soluble cationic polymers.

Because Sirringhaus fails to teach or suggest all features of claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 11 and 12, the claims are not anticipated.

Obviousness

The rejection of claims 3, 4, 5, 8 and 9 as obvious over Sirringhaus in view of Hsu (U.S. Pat. Appl. Pub. No. 2003/0222250) or Yu et al. (U.S. Pat. Appl. Pub. No 2004/0094768) is respectfully traversed. The combination of references fails to describe the features of the claims.

As describe above, Sirringhaus fails to teach or suggest the use of a cationic water soluble conjugated polymer comprising pendant solubilizing groups linked to the conjugated polymer. Hsu and Yu et al. fail to remedy this deficiency. Hsu (see paragraph [0016]) and Yu et al. (see paragraph [0055]) describe conjugated polymers, but like PEDOT:PSS described in Sirringhaus, the polymers do not contain pendant solubilizing groups linked to a conjugated polymer. Moreover, Hsu and Yu et al. describe sulfonic acid-containing polymers, which are anionic not cationic polymers. Because the combination of references fails to teach or suggest the subject matter of the claims, claims 3, 4, 5, 8 and 9 are not obvious.

Other Applications

The examiner is reminded of the following patents and applications for consideration of any double patenting issues: a) Appl. Serial No. 11/221,123; b) Application Serial No. 11/221,026 c) US Patent No. 7,830,085; d) US Patent No. 8,076,842; e) US Patent No. 7,144,950.

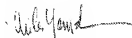
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

A Petition and fee for a once month extension of time was previously submitted with the February 14, 2012 Amendment.

No other fee is believed due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized during prosecution of this application and any related appeal, to charge any fees that may be required (except for patent issue fees required under 37 CFR §1.18) or to credit any overpayment of fees to Deposit Account No. 50-3881, under Order No. 1279-454. If an extension of time is required in connection with this paper, please consider this a Petition therefor and charge any fees required to Deposit Account No. 50-3881, under Order No. 1279-454.

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Respectfully submitted,



Miles Yamanaka
Reg. No. 45,665

Berliner & Associates
555 West Fifth Street
31st Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90013
tel: 213-533-4171
fax: 213-533-4174
email: myamanaka@berliner-ip.com

Attachment: Printout from Wikipedia describing PEDOT:PSS